

of rope or metal used to fasten the edge of a sail to its stay, an oar in place, etc. 2 an eyelet, as of metal or plastic, providing an opening in cloth, leather, etc.

grom-well (grām'wel', -wəl) *n.* [altered < ME *gromil* < OFr < ML *grānum milium*, kind of millet < *gruinus*, of a crane (< L *grus*, crane) + L *milium*, MILLET] any of a genus (*Lithospermum*) of plants of the borage family, with yellow or orange flowers and stonelike nutlets

gromyko (grō mē'kō), An-drei An-dre-ye-vich (än drä' än drä'ye) 1909-89: Soviet diplomat

grom-en (grō'nin' ən; Du khō'nin' ən) province of N Netherlands: 1,146 sq mi (298 sq km); pop. 558,000 2 its capital: Groningen 171,000

grom-land (grōn'län) *Dan. name for GREENLAND*

groom (grōm; also groom) *n.* [ME *grom*, *groom* < ?] 1 a person whose work is feeding, feeding, and currying horses 2 any of certain officials of the British royal household 3 BRIDEGROOM 4 *groom* (a) a manservant (b) any man who is to clean and curry (a horse, dog, etc.) 2 to clean, make neat and tidy, etc. 3 to clean the fur, feathers, etc. of itself 4 another animal, often as a social activity 5 to train for a particular purpose 6 to groom a man for politics

grooms-man (grōmz'mən) *n., pl. -men* (mən) a man who attends the bridegroom at a wedding

groove (grōv) *n.* [ME *grofe* < ON *grof*, a pit, hole, ditch; for IE base see GRAVE] 1 a long, narrow groove or hollow cut in a surface with a tool, as the track cut in a phonograph record for the stylus to follow 2 any channel or rut cut in a surface 3 a habitual way of doing something; settled habit 4 Anat. any narrow furrow, depression, or slit occurring on the surface of an organ, esp. of bone 5 Printing the indentation at the bottom of a piece of type: see TYPE, illus. —*vt.* grooved, grooving to make a groove or grooves in —*vi.* [Slang] to react with empathy or enjoyment: with on, to, etc. [to groove to jazz]

groovy (grōv'ē) *adj.* groov'ier, groov'iest [*<* old slang in the 1950s, working effortlessly] [Slang] very pleasing or attractive

grope (grōp) *vi.* groped, grop'ing [ME *gropien* < OE *grapian*, to search, seize, akin to Ger *greifen*, to grasp; for IE base see GRIP] to feel or search about blindly, hesitantly, or uncertainly; feel one's way —*vt.* 1 to seek or find (one's way) by groping 2 [Slang] to make sexual advances by touching (a person) —*n.* an act or instance of groping —*grop'er n.* —*grop'ingly adv.*

gro-pius (grō'pē əs), Walter 1883-1969; U.S. architect, born in Germany: founder of the BAUHAUS

gro-beak (grōs'bēk) *n.* [Fr *grossbec*: see GROSS & BEAK] any of various passerine birds (family Fringillidae or Emberizidae) with a short, strong, conical bill

gros-chen (grō'shən) *n., pl. -schen* [Ger < 14th-c. dial. *grosch(e)* < *gros* < ML *(denarius) grossus*: see GROAT] a monetary unit of Austria, equal to 1/100 of a schilling

gros de Lon-dres (or lon-dres) (grō də lōn'drə) [Fr, lit., London gross: see GROGRAM] a shiny fabric of lightweight silk having alternating wide and narrow ribs

gros-grain (grō'grān) *n.* [Fr: see GROGRAM] a closely woven silk or rayon fabric with prominent, crosswise ribbing, used for ribbons, flannels, etc.

gross point (grō) 1 a large needlepoint stitch over two vertical and horizontal threads 2 work done with this stitch

gross (grōs) *adj.* [ME *grose* < OFr *gros*, big, thick, coarse < LL *grossus*, thick] 1 big or fat and coarse-looking; corpulent; burly 2 being; flagrant; very bad (a gross miscalculation) 3 dense; thick 4 lacking fineness, as in texture 5 lacking fine distinctions or specific details 6 lacking in refinement or perception; insensitive; 7 vulgar; obscene; coarse [gross language] 8 [Slang] unpleasant, disgusting, offensive, etc. 9 with no deductions; total; entire 10 income: opposed to NET 9 [Archaic] evident; obvious —*n.* 1 gross < OFr *grosse*, orig. fem. of *gross* 1 pl. gross'es overall total, as of income, before deductions are taken 2 pl. grosses twelve men —*vt., vi.* to earn (a specified total amount) before expenses are deducted —*SYN.* COARSE —*gross out* [Slang] to disgust, shock, offend, etc. —*In the gross* 1 in bulk; as a whole 2 wholesale: also *the gross* —*gross'ly adv.* —*gross'-ness n.*

gross domestic product the total value of the annual output of goods and services produced within a nation's borders: it excludes the foreign output of domestic firms and includes the domestic output of foreign firms

gross'er (grōs'er) *n.* [Slang] something, esp. a motion picture, that costs an amount of money: usually with a qualifier (the summer's gross'er)

gross national product the total value of a nation's annual output of goods and services

gross-out (grōs'out) [Slang] *adj.* disgusting, repulsive, offensive, etc.

gross ton [Brit.] TON¹ (sense 2)

gross-lar-ite (grās'yə lār'it) *n.* [Ger *grossularit* < ModL *grossularia*, orig. gooseberry genus (in reference to the color of some varieties) < Fr *groseille*: see GOOSEBERRY] a kind of garnet, Al₂(SiO₃)₂, occurring in various colors

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gross weight the total weight of a commodity, including the weight of the packaging or container

Gros Ventre (grō'vānt') [Fr, lit., big belly] 1 a member of a western group of the Arapaho, now living in Montana: also called Gros Ventre of the Prairie 2 HIDATSA: also called Gros Ventre of the Missouri

grosz (grōsh) *n., pl. grosz'y* (-ē) [Pol, akin to Czech *groš*: see GRO-SHEN] a monetary unit of Poland, equal to 1/100 of a zloty

Grosz (grōs), George 1893-1959; U.S. painter & caricaturist, born in Germany

grot (grāt) *n.* [Fr *grotte* < It *grotta*] [Old Poet.] a grotto

gro-tesque (grō tesk') *adj.* [Fr < It *grottesca* (pittura), orig. (picture) in a cave < *grotta*, GROTO: from resemblance to designs found in Roman caves] 1 in or of a style of painting, sculpture, etc. in which forms of persons and animals are intermingled as with foliage, flowers, or fruits in a fantastic or bizarre design 2 characterized by distortions or striking incongruities in appearance, shape, or manner; fantastic; bizarre 3 ludicrously eccentric or strange; ridiculous; absurd —*n.* 1 a grotesque painting, sculpture, design, etc. 2 a grotesque thing or quality —*SYN.* FANTASTIC —*gro-tesque'ly adv.* —*gro-tesque'-ness n.*

gro-tes-querie or **gro-tes-que-ry** (grō tes'kə rē) *n., pl. -queries* [*<* prec.] 1 a grotesque thing 2 the quality or state of being grotesque

Gro-tius (grō'shē əs), Hugo (born Huigh de Groot) 1583-1645; Du. scholar, jurist, & statesman

grotto (grāt'ō) *n., pl. -toes* or *-tos* [It *grotta* < ML *grupta* < VL *crypta*, for L *crypta*, CRYPT] 1 a cave 2 a cavelike summerhouse, shrine, etc.

grotty (grāt'ē) *adj.* -tier, -ti-est [*<* GROTESQUE + -y¹] [Slang, Chiefly Brit.] dirty, cheap, nasty, disgusting, etc.: a generalized term of disapproval

***grouch** (grōuch) *vi.* [*<* earlier *grutch* < ME *grucchen*: see GRUDGE] to grumble or complain in a sulky way —*n.* 1 a person who grouches continually 2 a grumbling or sulky mood 3 a complaint

***grouchy** (grōuch'ē) *adj.* grouch'ier, grouch'iest in a grouch; grumbling; sulky —*grouch'ily adv.* —*grouch'iness n.*

ground¹ (ground) *n.* [ME *grund* < OE, ground, bottom, akin to Ger *grund*; ON *grunnr*: for IE base see GRIND] 1 a) [Obs.] the lowest part, base, or bottom of anything b) the bottom of a body of water 2 the surface of the earth, specif. the solid surface 3 the soil of the earth; earth; land 4 a) any particular piece of land; esp., one set aside for a specified purpose (a hunting ground) b) [pl.] land surrounding or attached to a house or other building; esp., the lawns, garden, etc. of an estate 5 any particular area of reference, discussion, work, etc.; topic; subject /arguments covering the same ground/ 6 [often pl.] basis; foundation 7 the logical basis of a conclusion, action, etc.; valid reason, motive, or cause: *often used in pl.* 8 the background or surface over which other parts are spread or laid, as the main surface of a painting 9 [pl.] the particles that settle to the bottom of a liquid; dregs; sediment (coffee grounds/ 10 Elec. a) a conducting body (as the earth, or an object connected with the earth) whose potential is taken as zero and to which an electric circuit can be connected b) the connection of an electrical conductor with a ground c) a device, as a stake, iron pipe, etc., that makes such a connection —*adj.* 1 of, on, or near the ground 2 growing or living in or on the ground 3 Football designating the part of the offensive game plan using running plays —*vt.* 1 to set on, or cause to touch, the ground 2 to cause (a ship, etc.) to run aground 3 to found on a firm basis; establish 4 to base (a claim, argument, etc.) on something specified 5 to instruct (a person) in the elements or first principles of 6 to provide with a background 7 a) to keep (an aircraft or pilot) from flying 8 b) [Informal] to punish (a young person, esp. a teenager) by not permitting him or her to leave home to engage in social activity 8 Elec. to connect (an electrical conductor) to a ground 9 Football to throw or knock (an opposing player) to the ground —*vi.* 1 to strike the bottom or run ashore: said of a ship 2 Baseball a) to hit a grounder b) to be put out on a grounder (usually with out) 3 Football to throw an incomplete pass intentionally, to avoid being sacked —*break ground* 1 to dig; excavate 2 to plow 3 to start building 4 to start any undertaking: also *break new ground* —*cover ground* 1 to move or traverse a certain distance 2 to make a certain amount of progress —*cut the ground from under someone* (or *someone's feet*) to deprive someone of effective defense or argument —*from the ground up* from the first or elementary principles, methods, etc. to the last or most advanced; completely; thoroughly —*gain ground* 1 to move forward 2 to make progress 3 to gain in strength, extent, popularity, etc. —*get off the ground* to get (something) started; begin or cause to begin to make progress —*give ground* to withdraw under attack; retreat; yield —*go to ground* (Chiefly Brit.) to go into hiding or seclusion —*hold (or stand) one's ground* to keep one's position against attack or opposition; not withdraw or retreat —*lose ground* 1 to drop back; fall behind 2 to lose in strength, extent, popularity, etc. —*on delicate ground* in a situation requiring tact —*on firm ground* 1 in a safe situation 2 firmly supported by facts or evidence —*on one's own ground* 1 dealing with a situation or subject that one knows well 2 at home —*run into the ground* [Informal] to do too long or too often; overdo —*shift one's ground* to change one's argument or defense —*suit (right) down to the ground* [Informal] to suit completely

ground² (ground) *vt., vi. pt. & pp. of GRIND*

See the inside front cover for pronunciation information. The symbol * is used to mark terms of American origin.